

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 58th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

Call to Order: By **CHAIRMAN BILL TASH**, on February 14, 2003 at 3 P.M., in Room 405 Capitol.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Sen. Bill Tash, Chairman (R)
Sen. Aubyn Curtiss, Vice Chairman (R)
Sen. Sherm Anderson (R)
Sen. Gregory D. Barkus (R)
Sen. Jon Ellingson (D)
Sen. Rick Laible (R)
Sen. Bea McCarthy (D)
Sen. Dan McGee (R)
Sen. Gary L. Perry (R)
Sen. Glenn Roush (D)
Sen. Debbie Shea (D)
Sen. Ken Toole (D)

Members Excused: Sen. Jon Ellingson (D)

Members Absent: None.

Staff Present: Krista Lee Evans, Legislative Branch
Roberta Opel, Committee Secretary

Video-taped Committee: This is the video log of a committee hearing. The log provides a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. A video-taped recording of the meeting is available from the Montana Historical Society.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing & Date Posted: SJR 12, 2/11/2003; HB 287,
2/11/2003
Executive Action: SB 245

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 245

Discussion:

3:12pm **Motion/Vote:** SEN. DAN MCGEE moved to RECONSIDER previous action on SB 245. Motion to RECONSIDER carried, 11 to 0.

3:13pm **Motion/Vote:** SEN. MCGEE moved to INDEFINITELY POSTPONE SB 245. Motion carried 10-2 with SENATORS TOOLE and ELLINGSON voting no.

3:13pm SEN. GLENN ROUSH left the hearing to attend a meeting.

HEARING ON SJR 12

Opening Statement by Sponsor: SEN. DALE MAHLUM, SD 35, Missoula, presented SJR 12; a resolution urging congress to support a four-state "ice age floods national geologic trail".

Proponents' Testimony: None

Opponents' Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

3:22pm Begin
3:32pm End
10 min Elapsed time

Closing by Sponsor:

3:32pm SEN. MAHLUM closed on SJR 12

Discussion on the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR:

3:33pm CHAIRMAN TASH discussed the possibility of drafting a committee bill related to opening the Coastal Plain of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR) for responsible oil and gas development. **EXHIBIT(nas33a01)** and **EXHIBIT(nas33a02)**

Discussion:

3:35pm Begin
3:46pm End
11 min Elapsed time

Motion/Vote: SEN. MCGEE moved that a committee bill regarding ANWR be drafted to include specific language. **Motion carried 9-1**

with **SEN. MCCARTHY** voting no. **SEN. TOOLE** and **SEN. MCGEE** were selected to be part of this study group.

Discussion:

3:49pm Begin
4:12pm End
27 min Elapsed time

HEARING ON HB 287

Opening Statement by Sponsor: **REPRESENTATIVE MONICA LINDEEN, HD 7, Huntley**, presented HB 287; an act requiring a person who purposely ignites a fire without a permit to reimburse the entity involved.

Proponents' Testimony:

4:15pm Pat Clinch, MT. Council of Professional Firefighter's
EXHIBIT (nas33a03)
4:16pm Gordon Morris, Montana Association of Counties (MACO)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

4:16pm Begin
4:31pm End
15 min Elapsed time

Closing by Sponsor:

4:31pm **SEN. LINDEEN** closed on HB 287. **SEN. SHERM ANDERSON** will carry HB 287 on the floor.

Discussion on ANWR Committee Bill:

4:32pm **SEN. GLENN ROUSH** returned to the hearing. Recess to allow **SEN. ROUSH** time to read ANWR **EXHIBITS 1 and 2** and discuss with committee members.
4:39pm End of recess
7 min Elapsed time

Discussion:

4:43pm **SEN. ROUSH** told the committee that he favored the drafting of an ANWR committee bill.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 4:45 P.M.

SEN. BILL TASH, Chairman

ROBERTA OPEL, Secretary

BT/RO

EXHIBIT (nas33aad)